

The team feels that Law and Order being a state subject, the handling and allotment of tasks to the Counter-Insurgency Force was done by the state authorities under the aegis of the Director General of Police. Events as they unfolded clearly indicate that this force was misutilised for criminal acts outside the parameters of law. Here we have support from the publication Amnesty International (Embargoed for February 22, 1999). An extract from the same (Page 26, Column 2) is reproduced here.

"... Only three months earlier, Chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdullah was quoted as saying that the Jammu and Kashmir state police and the Punjab police had achieved excellence in fighting terrorism and they could be trusted in the proxy war-like situation facing the state. The reference to Punjab police was no chance remark as the Director General of Police appointed in February 1997 has served for many years in counter-insurgency operations in Punjab where high levels of human rights violations had been reported. The Jammu and Kashmir state police have shown a disturbing disregard for the rule of law in their expanding counter-insurgency operations, leading to increasing allegations of arbitrary arrests, torture, killings and 'disappearance' perpetrated by police officers themselves and reports of their connivance in abuses committed by other agencies such as the renegades. It is also shown in the way police have obstructed victims' and victims' families' access to redress."

We feel that a Central Agency directed this operation without the knowledge of the State Chief Minister and his Cabinet. This, therefore, is an act that needs to be condemned and a high level probe ordered to punish the guilty.

The Sikh soldiers have been used disproportionately in Nagaland, Assam, Sri Lanka and all along in Kashmir. This tends to endanger the amity existing between the minority and local majority community. This has special reference to the good relations existing between the majority Kashmiri Muslims and the minority Kashmiri Sikhs in J&K.

It is our considered opinion that Pakistan had nothing to gain by ordering militants/mercenaries to massacre Sikhs in the Kashmir valley. Pakistan had stressed clear of this kind of act during the past 10-15 years of military in J&K.

J&K militants too had nothing to gain from such an incident.

Indian leaders however gained substantial mileage from the incident as a spate of international sympathy was forthcoming. In fact President Clinton was joined by a number of others in decrying terrorism and killing of civilians in Kashmir. Union Home Minister Advani

RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. Team Recommendations

The Chithi Singhpora killings resulted in a major tragedy for the Sikh community in J&K. It was a traumatic event which had national and international ramifications. The killers have yet to be identified by the state and national authorities. It is therefore, very vital to discount various rumours and conjectures making the rounds. The team recommends that:

i. The Chithi Singhpora killings be investigated by the United Nations Human Rights Commission as these killings are symptomatic of killings that have taken place in various parts of India during counter-insurgency operations. Once the culprits are identified they should be dealt with speedily in accordance with the law.

ii. Compensation to be given to the victims of the killings at Chithi Singhpora. Pathribal, Brakpora and other related incidents should be Rupees 10 Lakhs as recommended to be given to victims of custodial killings by the Indian NHRC along with allied benefits.

iii. In spite of assistance by the majority Kashmiri Muslims and security measures taken by the centre and state government, some Sikh families still feel insecure and desire to migrate. In case they do so they should be provided with adequate facilities at least equal to that provided to the migrating Kashmiri Pandits and their families.

iv. The Chithi Singhpora killings put a question mark on the employment of surrendered militants as a viable counter-insurgency force. This force consists of individuals who have changed loyalties for material benefits. Their misuse of arms and exploitation of the situation for personal gain has been highlighted by the media repeatedly. We strongly recommend that this force be disbanded forthwith. Surrendered militants should be absorbed into mainstream of civil life rather than be employed in the counter-insurgency role.

Dated: April 29, 2000.

Signed,

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Justice (Retd).
INDERJIT SINGH JALJEE,
KARTAR SINGH GILL,
Lt. Gen. (Retd).

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 12

10 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Amy L. Comstock, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

SD-342

MAY 16

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Commission for International Free-

dom's findings on Russia, China, and Sudan.

SD-419

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the Army Corps of Engineer's backlog of authorized projects and the future of the Army Corps of Engineers' mission.

SD-406

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nomination of the following named officer for appointment as Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy, and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 5033: Adm. Vernon E. Clark, to be Admiral.

SR-222

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine threats to Federal Law Enforcement Officers.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service's proposed transportation policy.

SD-366

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Indian arts and crafts programs.

SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Clean Air Act, focusing on an incentive-based utility emissions reduction approach.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Finance

Business meeting to markup proposed legislation extending Permanent Normal Trading Relations to China.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1148, to provide for the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska certain benefits of the Missouri River Basin Pick-Sloan project; and S. 1658, to authorize the construction of a Reconciliation Place in Fort Pierre, South Dakota.

SR-485

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the operation, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of the Flathead Irrigation Project in Montana.

SD-366

Foreign Relations
International Economic Policy, Export and
Trade Promotion Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to examine
satellite export controls.

SD-419

MAY 18

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine mental
health parity.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and
Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1584, to establish
the Schuylkill River Valley National
Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania; S. 1685, to authorize the Golden
Spike/Crossroads of the West National
Heritage Area; H.R. 2932, to authorize
the Golden Spike Crossroads of the
West National Heritage Area; S. 1998,
to establish the Yuma Crossing National
Heritage Area; S. 2247, to establish
the Wheeling National Heritage
Area in the State of West Virginia; S.
2421, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing
an Upper Housatonic Valley National
Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts; and S. 2511, to establish the
Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National
Heritage Area in the State of Alaska.

SD-366

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the extent
to which fraud and criminal activities
are affecting commerce on the internet,
focusing on the widespread availability
of false identification documents and
credentials on the internet and the
criminal uses to which such identification
is put.

SD-342

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine drug safety
and pricing.

SD-430

10 a.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings on Internal Revenue
Service restructuring, focusing on
small businesses.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 740, to amend the
Federal Power Act to improve the hydroelectric
licensing process by granting the Federal
Energy Regulatory Commission statutory
authority to better coordinate participation
by other agencies and entities.

SD-366

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the Meltzer Commission,
focusing on the future of the

International Monetary Fund and
world.

SD-419

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 611, to provide for
administrative procedures to extend
Federal recognition to certain Indian
groups.

SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending
calendar business.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2163, to provide
for a study of the engineering feasibility
of a water exchange in lieu of electrification
of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser
Diversion Dam, Washington; S. 2396, to
authorize the Secretary of the Interior to
enter into contracts with the Weber Basin
Water Conservancy District, Utah, to use
Weber Basin Project facilities for the
impounding, storage, and carriage of
nonproject water for domestic, municipal,
industrial, and other beneficial purposes;
S. 2248, to assist in the development and
implementation of projects to provide for
the control of drainage water, storm water,
flood water, and other water as part of
water-related integrated resource management,
environmental infrastructure, and resource
protection and development projects in
the Colusa Basin Watershed, California;
S. 2410, to increase the authorization of
appropriations for the Reclamation Safety
of Dams Act of 1978; and S. 2425, to
authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to
participate in the planning, design, and
construction of the Bend Feed Canal
Pipeline Project, Oregon.

SD-366

MAY 25

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine gene therapy
issues.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and
Recreation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the potential
ban on snowmobiles in Yellowstone and
Grand Teton National Parks and the recent
decision by the Department of the Interior
to prohibit snowmobile activities in other
units of the National Park System.

SD-366

JUNE 7

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 2282, to encourage
the efficient use of existing resources and
assets related to Indian agricultural
research, development and exports within
the United States Department of Agriculture.

SR-485

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management
Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2300, to amend the
Mineral Leasing Act to increase the
maximum acreage of Federal leases for
coal that may be held by an entity in any
1 State; S. 2069, to permit the conveyance
of certain land in Powell, Wyoming; and
S. 1331, to give Lincoln County, Nevada,
the right to purchase at fair market value
certain public land in the county.

SD-366

JUNE 21

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on certain Indian Trust
Corporation activities.

SR-485

JUNE 28

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 2283, to amend the
Transportation Equity Act for the 21st
Century to make certain amendments with
respect to Indian tribes.

SR-485

JULY 12

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on risk management
and tort liability relating to Indian
matters.

SR-485

JULY 19

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on activities
of the National Indian Gaming Commission.

SR-485

JULY 26

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on authorizing funds for
programs of the Indian Health Care
Improvement Act.

SR-485

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House
Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the
Legislative recommendation of the
American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 16

9:30 a.m.
Small Business
Business meeting to markup S. 1594, to
amend the Small Business Act and
Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

SR-428A